BEEP

ALL RIGHT! I'LL SEE YOU ALL TOMORROW!

BYE-IKO!

WHEW...

EVERY-THING'S BEEN GOING WELL LATELY.

I'VE GOTTEN MORE SUBSCRIBERS, TOO.

Tune In to the Midnight Heart

IKON SUMERAGI
32K SUBSCRIBERS

IF I JUST ROUND THE NUMBER OFF...

I CAN EASILY BE CONSIDERED A TOP VTUBER...

WHAT?! YOU MANAGED TO GET A TICKET TO THE ***BLUE-BOX*** CONCERT?!

IT WASN'T EASY, BUT YEAH.

Heh heh heh..

THE HECK IS THAT?

YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF THEM BEFORE ?!

BLUE-BOX'S BEEN GAINING A LOT OF TRACTION LATELY, HUH?

*A CONVENTION CENTER LOCATED IN CHIBA PREFECTURE.

...

VTUBERS ARE DOING CONCERTS IN MAKUHARI MESSE* THESE DAYS, TOO, HUH?

THEY'RE TOP VTUBERS, SO OF COURSE.

THEY'RE THE ***NUMBER ONE VTUBER GROUP*** IN JAPAN, YOU KNOW!

THE SUBSCRIBER COUNT OF THEIR ACE, AO MOMOTOSE, JUST RECENTLY REACHED THREE MILLION!

BLUE-BOX

AT MY CURRENT PACE...

IT'LL TAKE ABOUT A CENTURY FOR ME TO REACH THREE MILLION...

One, two, three...

3000000

TH-THREE MILLION ...!!

...THE ONE WHO'S LEAST LIKELY TO ACHIEVE HER DREAM, OUT OF ALL FOUR OF US?!

Oh boy...

AM I ACTUALLY...

I'M GOING TO FALL BEHIND AT THIS RATE!!

はぁ FWP

WH-WH-WH-WH-WH-WHAT DO I DO?!

ARE YOU GIRLS...

I'M ARISU YAMA-BUKI!

REALLY HAPPY WITH HOW THINGS ARE RIGHT NOW?

...DOWN THE RIGHT PATH AND TURN THEM INTO TRUE PROFES-SIONALS!

BUSTLE

I'VE NEVER EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT THIS STUFF BEFORE...

JUST WHAT HAPPENED TO ME?

BUHAM

WHOA ?!

IS SOMETHING BOTHERING Y-

WHAT'S WRONG, KIRINO?

SCRATCH

UMA UMA UMA!

THIS IS...

...ALL YOUR FAULT.

That's your takeaway from this?

SHE SURE KNOWS HOW TO DO A GOOD TACKLE...

...

TEP TEP TEP

HUH? MY FAULT?

You big dum-dum!

I CAN'T AFFORD TO BE COMPLACENT...

SWAY

SWAY

I GOTTA BECOME MORE POPULAR SOMEHOW ...

I'M GONNA ...

BE LEFT BEHIND IF I DON'T DO SOME-THING!

RIKKA, NENE, AND SHINOBU WILL BE ABLE TO REALIZE THEIR DREAMS FOR SURE...

AO MOMOTOSE
BLUE-BOX
3M SUBSCRIBERS

THE TOP VTUBER, AO MOMO-TOSE...

SHE'S WHAT I SHOULD STRIVE TO BE.

I GOTTA CATCH UP TO HER ASAP...

TAP

ANYWAY, LET'S DO SOME RESEARCH ON AO-CHAN...

0:30

...AND FIND OUT WHAT I'M LACKING!

THINK THINK

THINK

WELCOME TO MY THREE-MILLION-SUBSCRIBER CONCERT!

LET'S ALL HAVE A GOOD TIME TOGETHER!

SH-SHE'S SO GOOD AT DANCING!

HER 3D MODEL IS PRETTY, TOO. THE WHOLE CONCERT IS SIMPLY BREATH-TAKING...!

I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE'S THIS GOOD!

は

GASP っ

This is what I get for running away...!!

I THOUGHT I'D NEVER HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH HER, SO I'D NEVER REALLY WATCHED HER STUFF.

TAP

0:30

WHAT I NEED TO CHECK OUT IS HER REGULAR STREAMS!

Yeah!

IT'S STILL TOO EARLY FOR ME TO GO 3D!

I'M DOING A PIANO STREAM!

AO MOMOTOSE BLUE-BOX

JOIN

I'M MAKING MACARONS TODAY!

I HEARD IT'S REALLY HARD EVEN FOR PROS, BUT I'LL TRY MY BEST!

VTUBER TRIED TO TACKLE THE COMMON TEST FOR UNIVERSITY ADMISSIONS

SHE'S MULTI-TALENT-ED!

SH-

WOW...!

Nghhh..

I GOTTA OUTDO AO-CHAN SOMEHOW IF I WANNA BEAT HER!

NO, I SHOULDN'T BE GETTING COLD FEET!

I DO A WIDE VARIETY OF CONTENT, TOO, BUT SHE'S ON A WHOLE DIFFERENT LEVEL!

NOT TO MENTION SHE'S SMART. IT'S JUST NOT FAIR!

COOKING STREAM!!

IKON SUMERAGI

32K SUBSCRIBERS

321 WATCHING NOW

A COOKING STREAM?

NOW THAT'S NEW.

TING

THAT'S THE NOTIFICATION FOR KIRINO'S STREAM.

HMM?

MONDAY

DING

DONG

HEL-
LIKO!

I'M GONNA TRY TO MAKE A CAKE TODAY!

NO VTUBER HAS EVER DONE THIS BEFORE!

A SPECIAL FOUR-TIER CAKE!

TA-DA

HERE'S WHAT I'M MAKING!

OH, WAIT. I DON'T HAVE A WEBCAM, SO IT'S NOT LIKE ANYONE CAN SEE WHAT I'M DOING...

...

DRIP DRIP DRIP DRIP

HOW DO I PRE-HEAT THE OVEN?

A HEATPROOF BOWL? THERE ARE BOWLS THAT AREN'T HEATPROOF?!

FIRST, I'LL OPEN THIS PACKAGE OF SUPERFINE SUGAR...

UH, WHERE'S THE MIXER AGAIN...?

BODY TEMPERATURE? HOW MANY DEGREES IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE?!

WHAT'S UP WITH IKO-CHAN? DID HER STREAM GET HIJACKED? YEAH, SOMEONE'S POINTING A GUN AT HER.

IKE-IKO ALREADY? YOU HARDLY DID ANYTHING.

MUST BE ONE OF THOSE DRUNK STREAMS.

IT'S A SUPERFINE SUGAR UNBOXING VIDEO.

I THINK IT'S A SUBLIMINAL MESSAGE.

HER VIEWERS ARE CON-FUSED, TOO!

ANYWAY, BYE-IKO!

WHAT IS SHE DOING ?!

"THE HOME-EC ROOM."

HOWEVER, IF I CAN'T ONE UP AO-CHAN, I WON'T BE ABLE TO BEAT HER!

THAT WAS A TOTAL DISAS-TER!

JUST WHAT'S GOING THROUGH HER MIND?

I THOUGHT SHE WAS ACTING WEIRD...

THURSDAY もくよー

I'LL KEEP SINGING UNTIL I GET THREE MILLION SUBS!

WEDNESDAY すいよー

I'LL GET A FULL SCORE ON THE UNIVERSITY OF TOKYO MOCK EXAM TODAY!

TUESDAY かよー

I'LL PLAY AN INSTRUMENT KNOWN AS THE "DIDGERIDOO" TODAY!

HEL-LIKO!

FRIDAY

キンヨリ!!

NO WAY...

HEY, KIRINO!

ギクッ

TWITCH

COULD SHE BE...?

DASH

I NEED TO TALK TO YOU...

JUST LEAVE ME ALONE! IF I DON'T DO THIS...

...I WON'T BE ABLE TO BEAT AO-CHAN!

GRAB

HEY! WHY ARE YOU RUNNING AWAY?!

CUZ I HAVE A FEELING YOU'RE GONNA YELL AT ME!

FFT

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT—

I SEE HOW IT IS.

"AO-CHAN" ...

SKEDADDLE

GWO-OOH!!

TING

IF I'M GONNA BEAT AO-CHAN, I'LL NEED TO...

I GOTTA FIGURE SOMETHING OUT ON MY OWN...

TMP

IF I TELL HIM, HE'LL TOTALLY TRY TO STOP ME...

NEW OUTFIT!! IT'S RATHER SEXY! ♡♡♡

AO MOMOTOSE BLUE-BOX 3M SUBSCRIBERS

ASK WAITING

BEEP

IT'S AO-CHAN'S STREAM ...

TMP

...AND TELL ME I'LL NEVER BEAT AO MOMO-TOSE!

TH-

THIS IS IT!

SOME DAYS LATER

HEY, LOOK AT THIS.

IKO'S REVEALING HER NEW OUTFIT ON HER STREAM.

THAT'S PRETTY SUDDEN.

SHE HASN'T COME TO THE CLUB LATELY BECAUSE SHE'S BEEN BUSY DRAWING IT.

WOW, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE IT!

CAPTION: NEW OUTFIT REVEAL!

IMAGINING WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE BASED ON THIS SILHOUETTE IS PART OF THE FUN, HUH?

OH, IT'S STARTING!

POP

HEL-LIKO, EVERY-ONE!

新衣お披露目

TEE HEE WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY NEW OUTFIT?

DA-DUN!

DA-DUN

DA-DUN

DA-DUN

OOH... THERE'S A BUNCH MORE VIEWERS NOW!

MUST BE CUZ I'M WAY LEWDER THAN AO-CHAN...

WHOA IT'S PRETTY LEWD...

A SWIM-SUIT?!

THIS IS WHAT SHE'S GOING FOR, HUH?!

BA-DUMP

BA-DUMP

BA-DUMP

OH, FINE. I'LL JUMP RIGHT MEOW...

TH-THIS IS AMAZING... HUH? YOU WANT ME TO JUMP?

GRK

GRK

GRK

GRK

GRK

GRK

SHE'S BEEN JUMPING FOR A WHILE...

HOP

HOP

HOP

HOP

HOP

HOP

HOP

HOP

HOP

OH, SHE'S JUMPING.

HER NECK ANGLE IS ALL WEIRD, TOO.

HER MIC IS ALSO MUTED...

WOW, EVEN HER ASSETS ARE JUMPING!

JUST WHAT IS GOING ON?

FUSH ぺよ
FUSH
FUSH ぺよぺよぺよー
Mreow!!
I'M STREAM-ING! GIVE IT BACK!
I WON'T TELL YOU NOT TO DO THIS STUFF...
HOP ぺよ
ぺよ
KIRINO... WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING?
ぺよ
HOP
...BUT YOU'LL BE ON A SLIPPERY SLOPE.
THEY MIGHT BAN YOU FROM STREAMING ONE DAY, YOU KNOW?
BUT...
TUMBLE
AH!
BUT...I JUST CAN'T BEAT AO-CHAN IN ANYTHING!
I WON'T BE ABLE TO CATCH UP TO HER UNLESS I DO THIS!
I SEE.
I CAN'T SAY I APPROVE OF THAT.

THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU TO PLAY CATCH-UP WITH HER.

YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE A TOP VTUBER!

GRAB

AFTER ALL...

...YOU'RE NOT ONE BIT INFERIOR TO AO MOMOTOSE!

YOU'VE STRUGGLED ALONE ALL THIS TIME, HAVEN'T YOU?

JUST LEAVE THE REST TO ME!

I'M NOT GOING TO LIE JUST TO MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER.

LIAR...

I'M NOT LYING.

IKON SUMERAGI 32K SUBSCRIBERS

ALL RIGHT.

HELP ME, BUCKY.

IKON SUMERAGI ✓ 3M SUBSCRIBERS

HEL-LIKO, EVERYONE!

I ACTUALLY STREAMED IN A SWIMSUIT ONCE.

I USED THE SAME PATTERN FROM THAT SWIMSUIT FOR THIS OUTFIT.

THANK YOU FOR COMING TO MY THREE-MILLION-SUBSCRIBER CONCERT!

I'VE PREPARED A NEW OUTFIT JUST FOR THIS DAY!

GETTING HERE HAS BEEN A LONG AND ROCKY ROAD.

THERE WERE MANY TIMES...

WHEN I ACTUALLY CONSIDERED GIVING UP...

DOES THIS PATTERN RING ANY BELL?

...BUT I WAS ABLE TO KEEP GOING THANKS TO SOMEONE...

YOU'RE WATCHING THIS RIGHT NOW, AREN'T YOU?

CHAPTER 23: THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT